

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 10, line 14 of the original specification with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 3 and 4 show a practical embodiment in which the gas generator apparatus is supported in ~~[[an]]~~ a tubular steel framework ~~or structure~~ 19 for ease of movement. Structure 19 has opposing lateral sides 60 that each extend between a front side 62 and an opposing back side 64. The structure 19 at least partially bounds a compartment 66 and has a plurality of spaced apart openings 68 that communicates between the exterior atmosphere and compartment 66. As shown in the depicted embodiment, each side may incorporate a separate one of the openings 68. One or more of the gas generator apparatus components may be disposed within compartment 66. For example, as shown in the depicted embodiment, HEPA filter 11, fan 12, heater 13, flash evaporator 14, container 15, liquid pump 16, and/or conduit 17 may be wholly or partially disposed within compartment 66 so that respective exterior surfaces thereof are freely exposed to the exterior atmosphere by way of the plurality of openings 68. The apparatus is light enough to be carried by the user and as can be seen in Figure 4 can have caster wheels 20 to enable it to be easily manoeuvred into position. The tubular framework is sealed to prevent any contamination being introduced to the enclosure by the frame. Ideally, the apparatus should not be placed inside a housing unit. Any covering of the apparatus would restrict the sterilant gas movements around and through the apparatus, which is essential to ensure that the apparatus itself is also surface decontaminated because otherwise it may contaminate the area in which it is placed. Figures 3 and 4 also show the enclosed control box 70 for the apparatus which disposed at least partially within compartment 66 so that the exterior surface of control box 70 is also freely exposed to the exterior atmosphere by way of the plurality of openings 68. Control box 70 will be described in greater detail below.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 12, line 14 of the original specification with the following amended paragraph:

Reference is now made to Figures 5 and 6 which illustrate the combined heater/evaporator 14/15 13/14 in greater detail. The heater/evaporator comprises a cast cylindrical aluminium block 30 which is mounted in framework 19 with the axis of the block extending vertically. The lower end of the block has a shallow cylindrical recess 31 and a circular base plate 32 is attached to the periphery of the block extending across the recess by screws (~~not shown~~)the shown. The base plate 32 has a central aperture 33 in which the end of the inlet conduit 10 is mounted to deliver a supply of air to the recess in the block.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 16, line 19 of the original specification with the following amended paragraph:

The apparatus described particularly with reference to Figures 3 to 9 is intended to be readily portable or transportable from room to room where it is to be used. It provides a source of heated air carrying hydrogen peroxide vapour sterilant directly into the room and distributes the air flow throughout the room until condensation occurs on all surfaces within the room. This includes the exposed exterior surfaces of the components disposed within compartment 66 of the apparatus by virtue of the hydrogen peroxide vapour sterilant passing through openings 68. No external pipework connections are required to pass through walls of the room just power supply and control cables for the apparatus. No special installation requirements arise as in conventional gas generator circuit systems as referred to earlier.